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ABSTRACT

The document tested the level of generalization of a recent conclusion from past research (see ED075156) on nonmetropolitan (NM) south and southwest Texas Mexican American teenagers: that these youths have predominantly high and strong status aspirations and expectations. Earlier findings on NM Mexican American youth supported Merton's thesis that all types of youth have high aspirations for upward social mobility. This questioned much of the speculative assertion that Mexican Americans suffered impediments to social mobility due to low achievement aspirations derived from the patterns of values and beliefs linked to their subculture. Data were gathered from 2 separate studies of Texas Mexican American youth completed in the past 6 years: a 1967 study of NM youth in south Texas (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971) and a study of El Paso youth (Venegas, 1973). Differences between NM and metropolitan (M) respondents were found to be statistically significant for both boys and girls relative to specific educational and occupational status projections types for both aspirations and expectations. In addition, statistically significant differences existed between the 2 samples of Mexican American youth in reference to intensity of education aspiration and certainty of attainment of expected occupational attainment. Statistical data is presented in 12 tables. (KM)

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ASPIRATIONS OF CHICANO YOUTH FROM THE TEXAS BORDER REGION: A METROPOLITAN-NONMETROPOLITAN COMPARISON*

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RC007849

Introduction

The purpose of this research is to attempt to test the level of generalization of a recent conclusion from our past research on non-metropolitan, south and southwest Texas Mexican American teen-agers: that these youth have predominantly high and strong status aspirations and expectations. This attempt was made possible by a recent replication of our earlier NM (nonmetropolitan) study carried out by Moises Venegas in El Paso.

Our earlier findings on the NM Mexican American youth supported Merton's thesis that all types of youth, including Mexican American youth, in American society have high aspirations for upward social mobility (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971). This brought into question much of the speculative assertions that Mexican American youth suffered impediments to social mobility due to low achievement aspirations derived from the patterns of values and beliefs linked to their minority sub-culture (Wright, Salinas, and Kuvlesky, 1973; Hernandez, 1970). Obviously, the assertion can be made that our earlier findings about NM Texas Mexican Americans are atypical—an exception to the more general patterns which prevail among Mexican American youth, particularly those residing in large M (metropolitan) areas.

Given the fact that little in the way of comparable past research has been accumulated on aspirations of a variety of Mexican American youth, it is legitimate to question how far you can generalize from one small study of Mexican Americans living in small places along the Mexican border

in one state. Only one rather dated study done in the southwest has been reported on M (metropolitan) Mexican American youths' status aspirations--Heller's analysis based on a Los Angeles study carried out in the late fifties (Heller, 1966). The few other past reports we could locate indicated results that appeared to support our conclusions; although, for one reason or another questions could be raised about comparability between those findings and ours (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1973). Only Heller's (1966) inferences from the much earlier Los Angeles findings appeared to directly challenge our conclusions; however, Heller's findings were based on responses indicating expectations (anticipated attainments), not aspirations (desired attainments), and of course, represent a historical period for the Mexican American much different from that of the late sixties and the present.

Past research generally indicates that urban youth have higher status projections than rural youth (Kuvlesky, 1973). However, this generalization has never to our knowledge been tested adequately for Mexican Americans.

Specification of Research Objectives

The analysis reported here attempts to answer the strictly empirical question of whether or not NM and M Mexican American teen-age boys and girls are similar in reference to the following dimensions of the framework of status projections they maintain within the context of the Texas data available to us:

A. Educational Status Projections
   1. Level of Aspiration (desired status)
   2. Level of Expectation (anticipated status)
   3. Anticipatory Goal Deflection (difference between 1. and 2.)
   4. Intensity of Aspiration (strength of desire)
   5. Certainty of Expectation (certainty of attainment)

B. Occupational Status Projections
   1. Level of Aspiration
   2. Level of Expectation
   3. Anticipatory Goal Deflection
   4. Intensity of Aspiration
   5. Certainty of Expectation

Conceptual Frame

The conceptual distinctions differentiated above and evaluations of their empirical utility have been specified a number of times in other publications (Kuvlesky and Bealer, 1966; Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971; Kuvlesky, 1973; Cosby, et al., 1973). However, a brief overview is provided here. Status projections refer to an individual's cognitive orientations toward future social statuses and are of two types--aspirations and expectations. Each of these types has two dimensions--a status object and an orientation element. Aspirations consist of projections involving a variable amount of desire (orientation) toward a particular position delineated in some status area (status object). Expectations refer to anticipated actual attainments, whether they are desired or not, and vary in degree of certainty of projected attainment. The status object specified for aspiration and expectation in a given status area can vary and this potential variation is labeled anticipatory goal deflection--it is assumed that expectations are modifications of aspirations when they are found to be incongruent.

Data and Methods

The analysis to be reported here is based on comparative data from ~~of~~ two separate but similar studies of Texas Mexican American youth completed in the past six years: our 1967 study of nonmetropolitan youth in South Texas (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971) and a 1973 study of El Paso youth by Venegas (1973), Table 1. Each of these studies is described briefly below.

1967 Nonmetropolitan (ST-67)

Data were obtained from interviews with high school sophomores attending school during the spring of 1967 in four Texas counties adjacent to or close to the Mexican border--Dimmit, Maverick, Starr, and Zapata (Wright, 1968:141-143). These counties were selected to include high proportions of Mexican Americans, low-income families, and rural, nonmetropolitan residents as compared with Texas as a whole. The four NM counties in which the respondents resided were characterized by a proportionately high rate of rural or small city residents, a disproportionately high Mexican American population, and a low median family income. In all four, the education of adults over 24 averaged only 5-6 years, agricultural employment accounted for the major portion of the labor force, and the skilled force was much smaller than the unskilled. The seven high schools in these four counties exhibited a great deal of variability.

In general, the sophomore classes were heavily Mexican American. All high school sophomores attending school the date of the interview

were asked to respond to a group-administered questionnaire. The respondents were guaranteed that their responses would be kept confidential. Only those students who were present on the day of the interview (90% of those enrolled) were included in the study: a total of 596 Chicanos.

1973 Metropolitan Study (EP-73)

During the spring of 1973, a collaborative study between ERIC-CRESS (New Mexico State University) and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station was carried out in El Paso under the direction of Moises Venegas (1973). The study included a 5% sample of all sophomores and seniors in 12 of the 13 schools in the El Paso and Ysleta school districts. Complete data were collected on 300 Chicano high school students through a series of group-administered schedules.

The stimulus questions used in this study were identical to those used in the 1967 South Texas study and care was taken to use compatible interviewing and coding procedures (Venegas, 1973). Even given the expenditure of a lot of effort to assure that the El Paso data would be as exactly comparable as possible to our earlier study in South Texas, there are several factors to consider in interpreting the comparative results--the six years difference in time of observation and the fact that the ST-67 respondents were sophomores, while the EP-73 respondents were made up of both sophomores and seniors.* Each of these differences between the studies could explain differences in status projection comparisons according to past research: seniors tend to have, in the aggregate, slightly lower levels of status projections than sophomores and; little hard data exists to determine whether or not status projections

*Venegas (1973) reports little difference between sophomores and seniors on status projection elements.

of Mexican American youth or of any other type of youth are changing over historical time, although some have speculated that the aspirations and expectations of disadvantaged youth are rising. All in all, the differences probably produced in status projections by these 2 variable aspects of the two data sets would not off-set substantial place of residence differences in our opinion. At any rate, for the present and relative to what syntheses have been done in the past, these can be judged to be very comparable studies.

Analysis and Findings

Educational Status Projections

Aspirations and Expectations (Tables 2 and 3)

Differences between the ST-67 and EP-73 respondents were found to be statistically significant in reference to both type of educational aspiration and type of educational expectation for both males and females. The major difference between the two samples was that proportionately twice as many nonmetropolitan respondents desired to terminate with high school graduation, whereas the metropolitan respondents more often desired vocational or technical training after high school. A similar but slightly more marked pattern of difference was observed in reference to lifetime educational status "really expected." When the specific educational type categories were collapsed into broad SES class levels (see figures in parentheses in Tables 1 and 2), the nonmetropolitan Mexican American youth were observed to have low aspirations and expectations more frequently and intermediate level orientations less frequently than their metropolitan counterparts regardless of sex.

Given these differences noted above, it is important to note some general similarities that exist among the two populations of Mexican Americans as follows:

A. Educational Aspirations

(1) A majority or near majority of both boys and girls desired to at least graduate from a four year college--they had high level educational goals.

(2) Only about one fifth of the nonmetropolitan and less than one out of every 10 of the metropolitan Mexican American boys and girls were judged to have low level aspirations.

B. Educational Expectations

(1) More of both study populations expected low levels of educational attainment; however, the proportion was always less than one third of any grouping.

(2) From about one third to almost one half of each of the four groupings of respondents considered actually really expected to attain a four-year college degree.

Anticipatory Goal Deflection (Table 4)

The ST-67 and EP-73 respondents did not differ at all, regardless of sex, in reference to the incongruence existing between what they desired and what they expected in reference to educational status attainment. Roughly two thirds of each sex grouping from the two populations demonstrated no anticipatory deflection from educational aspirations at all, and most of the remainder experienced negative deflection (expectations lower than aspirations).

Intensity of Aspirations (Table 5)

It can be readily seen that the nonmetropolitan respondents more frequently maintained a strong desire for their educational aspirations than the metropolitan respondents. Still, it is important to note that

a majority of boys and girls in both samples indicated strong desire for their educational goals and few indicated weak attachment to their goals.

Certainty of Expectation (Table 6)

The metropolitan and nonmetropolitan youth studied did not differ substantially in regard to how certain they felt about attaining the education they really expected--they were split about in half in all cases between feeling some degree of certainty ("very certain" and "certain") or, conversely, some degree of uncertainty ("not very certain" and "uncertain").

Occupational Status Projections

Aspirations and Expectations (Tables 7 and 8)

The ST-67 and EP-73 youth were very similar in the broad status levels of occupation they aspired to. Roughly two-thirds of each grouping aspire to achieve high occupational status and very small proportions desire low prestige jobs. Expectations, while generally lower than aspirations, remain high for the most part: almost half anticipated attaining high occupational status and most of the remainder expect intermediate prestige level jobs, which would still represent upward mobility for most of them.

Given the general status level similarities between these two Mexican American populations mentioned above, a comparison on more specific types of aspirations and expectations by sex does reveal some patterned differences between them. These differences occur mostly in reference to aspirations aimed at high status achievement: ST-67 boys

and girls are more likely to shoot for lower prestige professional jobs and less likely to aim for those of higher status ranks (i.e., lawyer, doctor, college professor, and etc.) and glamour jobs (i.e., pro sports, entertainer, and etc.). Similar but less substantial patterns can be observed for job expectations. In summary, at a more abstract status level the nonmetropolitan-metropolitan differences usually observed in status projections of other kinds of youth were not observed here (Kuvlesky, 1973).

Sex differences in occupational aspirations and expectations are patterned similarly between the two study populations as summarized below by status level:

High: Mexican American girls more often tended to desire and expect low prestige professional jobs (i.e., teacher, nurse, and lab technician) and less often desired or expected high prestige professional and glamour jobs than their male counterparts.

Intermediate: Girls were heavily concentrated in the "Clerical, Sales" category for both aspirations and expectations, while boys tended to concentrate in the "skilled Blue Collar" and "Managerial" types.

Low: Girls were less often found in the "operative" and "laborer" categories than males for both types of status projections, though proportions in all cases were very small.

Another consistent sex difference relative to expectations, was that small proportions of females expected their life-time work to be "housewife"--almost none of them desired this.

The sex differences observed above are consistent with what has been observed in the past for Black and White youth (Kuvlesky and Ohlendorf, 1968). The interstudy consistency of these sex-linked differentials again offer evidence indicating the general similarity of nonmetropolitan and metropolitan Mexican American youth.

Anticipatory Goal Deflection (Table 9)

Little difference is observed between the ST-67 and EP-73 studies in reference to anticipatory deflection from occupaticnal goals. Generally, a little over half the youth do not experience anticipatory goal deflection and the majority who do--about 1/3 of each total grouping--indicate that their expectations are lower than their aspirations. El Paso youth, particularly females, experienced slightly more goal deflection than did the nonmetropolitan youth. From these findings it can be inferred that at least a third of the two sets of Mexican American youth studied made a downward adjustment from high level aspirations to lower expectations probably in light of perceived impediments to mobility. The fact that negative anticipatory goal deflection rates were more substantial in reference to occupation may indicate that some of the perceived barriers to mobility are directly linked to factors inhibiting job entrance or job promotion.

Intensity of Aspiration (Table 10)

As was the case for educational goals, the two studies demonstrated congruent findings on intensity of desire associated with life-time occupational goals: over 7 out of 10 respondents indicated a strong desire to achieve these goals and very few demonstrated weak desires in this regard.

Certainty of Expectation (Table 11)

Only about one in 10 of both groupings of Mexican Americans studied felt "uncertain" or "very uncertain" about the chances of achieving their expected life-time jobs, Table 15. On the other hand, a near majority or

majority of all groupings were "not very certain" about this. El Paso youth more often indicated a strong degree of certainty. Perhaps this observation reflects a bit of realism creeping into these youths' evaluations of the future. Past research has demonstrated that Mexican American youth tend to be less certain about achieving their status expectations than either Black or Anglo youth (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971).

Summary of Findings and Conclusions

Differences between the NM and M respondents were in general found to be statistically significant for both boys and girls relative to specific educational and occupational status projections types--this was the case for both aspirations and expectations, Table 12. In addition, statistically significant differences existed between the two samples of Mexican American youth in reference to intensity of educational aspiration and certainty of attainment of expected occupational attainment. No substantial intersample differences were observed in reference to anticipatory goal deflection in reference to either status area, in reference to certainty of attainment of occupational expectations, nor in reference to intensity of desire associated with educational goals.

Valid statistical differences were found; however, the question still remains as to how substantial and substantively significant these differences were. It is our judgment that these interpretations should be made at two levels of abstraction: variations of specific but meaningful kind and those of a broader kind. Our conclusions relative to differences of a specific kind--primarily in reference to type of occupational and educational status attainments are listed below in outline form. Within the context of our data it can be concluded that nonmetropolitan and

metropolitan Mexican American youth differed in their status projections as follows:

(1) Metropolitan youth were more likely than the nonmetropolitan youth to desire and expect intermediate types of post-high school education. Conversely, nonmetropolitan youth were more likely to desire and expect low educational attainments--predominantly termination with high school graduation.

(2) Nonmetropolitan youth tended to have a stronger intensity of desire for the educational aspirations they maintained than did their metropolitan counterparts.

(3) Differences in occupational aspirations and expectations of any significance occurred only within the subcategories of high level status: metropolitan youth desired higher prestige professional and technical jobs than did the nonmetropolitan, regardless of sex.

(4) Metropolitan youth tended to be slightly more certain about attainment of their occupational expectations than were the nonmetropolitan.

Given the specific nonmetropolitan-metropolitan differences among our Mexican American respondents described above, some very important similarities were also observed, and these appear to be more significant than the moderate differences mentioned, particularly considering variations in time of study and age of respondent. These general patterns of similarity are illustrated by the selective summary of data appearing in Table 13 and are listed in outline form below:

Aspirations

(1) Regardless of sex or place of residence, most Mexican American youth have high aspiration levels for educational and occupational attainment and have a strong intensity of desire for these goals.

(2) Small proportions of Mexican American youth have low level aspirations, particularly in reference to job attainment.

Expectations

(1) Many Mexican American youth--around 40% on the average--really expect to attain high levels of educational and occupational attainment and smaller, usually much smaller, proportions anticipate low status attainments. This is particularly the case in reference to occupational status attainment.

(2) In general, both nonmetropolitan and metropolitan youth are polarized in reference to the certainty they feel about being able to attain the status levels they expect. A large number of youth of both types indicate they they "are not very certain" about this.

Anticipatory Goal Deflection

Regardless of sex or place of residence, more than half of the Mexican American youth expected to attain the status levels they aspired to. When they did not, they tended to anticipate lower level of attainment than they desired.

Discussion

In summary, we can conclude that the metropolitan and nonmetropolitan youth we studied are more alike than different in their aspirations and expectations for upward social mobility. A large majority want and expect intergenerational mobility and the vast majority indicate strong desires in this regard. What differences we did observe between nonmetropolitan and metropolitan youth were of slight to moderate magnitude and usually represented shifts of relatively small percentages of respondents among adjacent classification categories. Perhaps, the most significant of these specific variations was the higher rate of low level aspirations for education observed for the nonmetropolitan boys and girls. It is puzzling that these same respondents generally had stronger aspirations: they aim a bit lower but generally have a greater desire to achieve their goals than the metropolitan youth. One should keep in mind that in a relative, intergenerational, sense even most of those

labeled as having "low" aspirations would experience upward intergenerational social mobility if they achieved their goals. On the average their parents had only 5 years of schooling--very few of the Mexican American youth studied here either desired or expected to terminate their education before graduating from high school.

Support for the potential for generalizing these conclusions beyond the context of the data analyzed here exists from a recent study of metropolitan vocational-nonvocational students in Texas carried out by Schulman and his colleagues (1973) and from a study of Mexican American school-dropout age peers of our ST-67 respondents (Wages, 1970). The common findings of the current research available indicate that the general conclusions we have drawn are in all probability valid for general populations of Mexican American teen-agers all along the Mexican border area of Texas. Of course, we could feel more certain of this if our M and NM samples were studied at the same point in historical time; however, we do have 1973 data comparable to our ST-67 set collected that will provide a basis for checking on the significance of this variable. Still, assuming no significant historical change occurred in the status projections of our 67 nonmetropolitan respondents,* and that our generalizations are valid for all of South and Southwestern Texas, comparable studies need to be carried out on other, perhaps culturally different, Mexican American youth populations (i.e., California, Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado, Chicago, and other parts of the U.S.) to determine how far these generalizations can be extended.

*Examination of preliminary runs on still rough data from our equivalent ST-1973 data set indicate this to be a fairly safe assumption. For instance, the ST-73 and ST-67 respondents did not differ significantly in reference to educational projections (See Appendix, Table A-1).

Given the data at hand and the accumulated findings available, Mexican American youth in the "border area" of Texas appear very similar to other predominantly economically disadvantaged populations of Anglo, Black, and American Indian youth regardless of where they live (Kuvlesky, Wright, and Juarez, 1971; Stout, 1974). The implications of this conclusion for sociological theory and for the future of Mexican American youth will be discussed at length in a forthcoming report (Kuvlesky and Juarez, 1974).

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Table 1. Information on the Study Units, Schools, and Respondents Selected in the Two Texas Mexican American High School Youth Studies

Study	Geographical Area*	School Class	No. of Schools	N**	% Schools Mexican American
ST-1967 (Kuvlesky)	Border area between Mission & Eagle Pass - NM	Soph.	7	596	90%
EP-1973 (Veneseas)	5% sample - M	Soph., Sr.	12	300	56%

* Nonmetropolitan = NM; Metropolitan = M.

** Mexican American youth.

Table 2. Comparison of Educational Aspirations Among Two Samples of Mexican American Youth By Sex.

Educational Aspiration Level	Females[1]				Males[2]			
	ST-67 (N=306)		EP-73 (N=153)		ST-67 (N=290)		EP-73 (N=147)	
	%							
Low								
Quit High School	0	(21)	4	(13)	0	(19)	2	(9)
Graduate From High School	21		9		19		7	
Intermediate								
Graduate From High School & Take Vocational Training	12	(28)	40	(44)	19	(27)	33	(36)
Graduate From a Junior College	16		4		8		3	
High								
Graduate From a College or University	30	(51)	27	(42)	32	(53)	26	(54)
Complete Graduate Study	21		15		21		28	
NO INFO	0		1		1		1	
TOTAL	100		100		100		100	

[1] X^2=74.0340, df=5, P<.001

[2] X^2=26.6803, df=5, P<.001

Table 3. Comparison Educational Expectations of Two Samples of Mexican American Youth By Sex.

Educational Expectation Level	Females[1] ST-67 (N=306)		Females[1] EP-73 (N=153)		Males[2] ST-67 (N=290)		Males[2] EP-73 (N=147)	
	%		%		%		%	
Low								
Quit High School	1	(32)	3	(13)	0	(31)	3	(13)
Graduate From High School	31		10		31		10	
Intermediate								
Graduate From High School & Take Vocational Training	17	(31)	50	(55)	19	(30)	35	(38)
Graduate From a Junior College	14		5		11		3	
High								
Graduate From a College or University	29	(37)	20	(30)	30	(39)	32	(48)
Complete Graduate Study	8		10		9		16	
NO INFO	0		2		0		1	
TOTAL	100		100		100		100	

[1] $X^2=75.2935$, df=5, $P<.001$

[2] $X^2=47.1759$, df=5, $P<.001$

Table 4. Comparison of Two Texas Samples of Mexican American Youth in Regards to Nature of Anticipatory Deflection From Educational Aspirations.

Nature of Deflection	Females[1]		Males[2]	
	ST-67 (N=306)	EP-73 (N=153)	ST-67 (N=290)	EP-73 (N=147)
	-%-			
None	62	61	59	61
Positive	5	7	9	8
Negative	32	29	31	30
NO INFO	1	3	1	1
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

[1] X^2=0.7043, df=2, P>.70<.80

[2] X^2=0.2654, df=2, P>.80<.90

Table 5. Comparison of Two Texas Samples of Mexican American Youth in Regards to Their Intensity of Educational Aspirations.

Intensity Level	Females[1]		Males[2]	
	ST-67 (N=306)	EP-73 (N=153)	ST-67 (N=290)	EP-73 (N=147)
	-%-			
Strong	89	63	84	59
Intermediate	8	19	10	21
Weak	3	12	5	13
NO INFO	0	6	1	7
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

[1] X^2=36.2353, df=2, P<.001

[2] X^2=25.6899, df=2, P<.001

Table 6. Comparison of Two Samples of Mexican American Youth in Regards to Their Certainty of Educational Expectations.

Certainty Level	Females[1]		Males[2]	
	ST-67 (N=306)	EP-73 (N=157)	ST-67 (N=290)	EP-73 (N=143)
	-%-			
Very Certain	13	12	10	22
Certain	37	43	39	36
Not Very Certain	44	40	45	34
Uncertain	5	5	5	7
NO INFO	1	0	1	1
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

[1] X^2=1.6202, df=3, P>.50<.70

[2] X^2=13.0368, df=3, P>.001<.01

Table 7. Comparison of Two Texas Samples of Mexican American Youth on Occupational Aspirations by Sex.

Occupational Aspiration	Males[1]				Females[2]			
	ST-67 (N=279)		EP-73 (N=138)		ST-67 (N=300)		EP-73 (N=145)	
	-%-							
(1) High Professional	13		20		3		12	
(2) Low Professional	35	(54)	24	(59)	51	(60)	30	(63)
(3) Glamour	6		15		6		21	
(4) Managerial	8		10		1		3	
(5) Clerical, Sales	9	(37)	1	(36)	29	(37)	27	(33)
(6) Skilled B.C.	20		25		7		3	
(7) Operatives	4		4		1		3	
(8) Laborers	5	(9)	1	(5)	0	(3)	1	(4)
(9) Housewife	0		0		2		0	
TOTAL	100		100		100		100	
No Information	11		5		6		12	

[1] X^2=28.44, df=6, P<.001

[2] X^2=50.31, df=6, P<.001

Table 8. Comparison of Two Texas Samples of Mexican American Youth on Occupational Expectations by Sex.

Occupational Expectation	Males[1] ST-67 (N=279)	Males[1] EP-73 (N=138)	Females[2] ST-67 (N=300)	Females[2] EP-73 (N=145)
	-%-			
(1) High Professional	6	11	2	4
(2) Low Professional	31 (40)	22 (40)	31 (36)	28 (40)
(3) Glamour	3	7	3	8
(4) Managerial	12	11	1	3
(5) Clerical, Sales	11 (47)	3 (36)	41 (50)	43 (51)
(6) Skilled B.C.	24	32	8	5
(7) Operatives	6	4	1	2
(8) Laborers	7 (13)	10 (14)	2 (14)	1 (9)
(9) Housewife	0	0	11	6
TOTAL	100	100	100	100
No Information	11	5	6	12

[1] $X^2=26.67$, df=6, $P<.001$

[2] $X^2=14.66$, df=7, $P>.01<.05$

Table 9. A Comparison of Anticipatory Occupational Goal Deflection For Two Texas Samples of Mexican American Youth

Goal Deflection	Males[1] ST-67 (N=279)	Males[1] EP-73 (N=125)	Females[2] ST-67 (N=300)	Females[2] EP-73 (N=137)
	-%-			
None	62	59	62	54
+ (A E)	9	9	6	12
- (A E)	29	32	32	34
TOTAL	100	100	100	100
No Information	11	18	6	20

[1] Males: $X^2=0.37$, df=2, $P>.70<.80$

[2] Females: $X^2=5.90$, df=2, $P>.01<.05$

Table 10. Comparison of Two Populations of Mexican American Youth From Texas by Sex on Intensity of Occupational Aspiration.

Level of Intensity	Males[1]		Females[2]	
	ST-67 (N=288)	EP-73 (N=141)	ST-67 (N=305)	EP-73 (N=153)
	-%-			
Strong	69	72	72	70
Intermediate	29	24	24	21
Weak	2	4	4	9
TOTAL	100	100	100	100
No Information	2	12	1	4

[1] $X^2 = 2.45$, df=2, .30>P>.20

[2] $X^2 = 5.36$, df=2, .10>P>.05

Table 11. A Comparison of Two Texas Populations of Mexican American Youth on Certainty of Attaining Expected Life-Time Occupation by Sex.

Degree of Certainty	Males[1]		Females[2]	
	ST-67 (N=279)	EP-73 (N=139)	ST-67 (N=297)	EP-73 (N=151)
	-%-			
(1) Very Certain and Certain	36	52	32	48
(2) Not Very Certain	54	44	58	44
(3) Uncertain or Very Uncertain	10	8	10	8
TOTAL	100	100	100	100
No Information	11	8	9	6

[1] $X^2 = 7.89$, df=2, .02>P>.01

[2] $X^2 = 11.44$, df=2, .01>P>.001

Table 12. Summary of Statistical Test Results on Differences on Status Projection Elements Between the ST-67 and EP-73 Samples of Mexican American Youth.

Status Projection Elements	Statistically Significant Differences[1/]	
	Males	Females
Education		
Aspirations	yes	yes
Expectations	yes	yes
AGD	no	no
Intensity - Aspirations	yes	yes
Certainty - Expectations	no	no
Occupation		
Aspirations	yes	yes
Expectations	yes	no
AGD	no	no
Intensity - Aspirations	no	no
Certainty - Expectations	no	no

[1/] Significant at the .001 level of P according to results of X^2. This low level of P was selected to be conservative in concluding a difference existed as a result of differences in time of study involved between the two samples.

Table 13. Summary of Comparative Observations on Nonmetropolitan and Metropolitan Mexican American Youth From Texas

	Males		Females	
	ST-67	EP-73	ST-67	EP-73
	- - - - - - - - - - - - % - - - - - - - - - - -			
High Aspirations				
Education	53	54	51	42
Job	54	59	60	63
Low Aspirations				
Education	21	13	19	9
Job	9	5	3	4
High Expectations				
Education	39	48	37	30
Job	40	40	36	40
Low Expectations				
Education	31	13	32	13
Job	13	14	14	9
Anticipatory Goal Defl.		(none)		
Education	59	61	62	61
Job	62	59	62	54
Strong Intensity - Asp.				
Education	84	59	89	63
Job	69	72	72	70
Certain - Expectations				
Education	49	58	50	55
Job	36	52	32	48

Appendix

Table A-1. Preliminary Findings From 1973 South Texas Data Set Compared with ST-67 Data Set: Educational Aspirations and Expectations.

Level	1973 Mexican American Sophomores Aspirations		Expectations	
High	51	(52)*	43	(38)*
Intermediate	30	(28)	32	(31)
Low	19	(20)	24	(31)
No Information	0	(0)	1	(0)
Total	100		100	

*ST-67 equivalent percentages for comparison.